

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 IO-13 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01
INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 SP-02 SS-15
ICA-11 SOE-02 AID-05 CEA-01 COME-00 EB-08 DOE-15
INT-05 OMB-01 OES-07 STR-07 TRSE-00 ACDA-12 HA-05
/147 W

-----088739 041034Z /11

R 031808Z APR 78
FM AMEMBASSY BONN
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7296
INFO AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS
AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
AMEMBASSY PARIS
USMISSION GENEVA

C O N F I D E N T I A L BONN 05966

BRUSSELS ALSO FOR USEEC, PARIS ALSO FOR USOECD

E.O. LL652: GDS
TAGS: CSCE, EEC, ECE, SENV, ENRG, XH
SUBJECT: CONSULTATIONS WITH ALLIES ON BREZHNEV
CONFERENCE - ENERGY

REF: A. STATE 79059 B. USMISSION NATO 3264

1. FRG POSITION ON BREZHNEV ENERGY CONFERENCE
PROPOSAL STILL NOT SETTLED DEFINITELY AND MAY NOT
BE FINAL UNTIL AFTER APRIL 4 EC MINISTERS MEETING.
AGREED INTER-MINISTERIAL POSITION PROPOSED TO BUT
NOT YET APPROVED BY CHANCELLOR'S OFFICE RUNS ALONG
FOLLOWING LINES:

2. FOLLOWING LACK OF PROGRESS AT BELGRADE, THERE
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SHOULD BE NO CONCESSION MADE TO THE SOVIETS BY
ACCEPTING THEIR PROPOSAL FOR AN ENERGY CONFERENCE.
ON THE OTHER HAND, THERE COULD CONCEIVABLY BE LONG-
TERM POTENTIAL BENEFITS FROM DISCUSSIONS AND/OR
INFORMATION EXCHANGE ON ENERGY PROBLEMS BETWEEN
THE EAST AND THE WEST AT SOME FUTURE TIME. THEREFORE,
FRG BELIEVES THE DOOR SHOULD NOT BE SLAMMED

COMPLETELY ON THE CONFERENCE PROPOSAL, AND THE WAY
TO ACHIEVE THIS IS TO SAY: LET THE ECE DO A STUDY
OF WHETHER THERE MAY BE TOPICS OF COMMON INTEREST
TO EAST AND WEST WHICH MIGHT BE TAKEN UP IN FUTURE
DISCUSSIONS, BUT MAKE NO COMMITMENT TO A CONFERENCE.

3. COMMENT: BECAUSE THE GERMAN POSITION ON ENERGY
IS NOT YET FIXED AND BECAUSE THEY REALLY WANT TO
STRADDLE THE QUESTION, INTERVENTIONS BY FRG
DELEGATES AT VARIOUS EC, NATO AND OTHER MEETINGS
MAY BE EASILY MISUNDERSTOOD. WHAT THE GERMANS WANT
AT THIS POINT IS QUITE CLEAR: THEY DON'T FEEL
THE WEST CAN ACCEPT THE RUSSIAN PROPOSAL FOR A
CONFERENCE NOW; ON THE OTHER HAND THEY WANT TO KEEP
THE OPTION OPEN FOR A CONFERENCE SOMETIME IN THE
FUTURE. THE PROBLEM IS HOW TO GET THIS POSITION
ACROSS.
STOESSEL

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NNN

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